



June 2, 2015

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Girl Scouts of Hawai'i
410 Atkinson Drive
Suite 2E1, Box 3
Honolulu, HI 96814
808-595-8400
girlscouts-hawaii.org

Mr. Ernest Martin
Chair
Honolulu City Council

Re: Testimony – Bill 13

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Girl Member Advocates

Elizabeth Coleman

Rafael Lee

Kiera Yap

Ex Officio

Shari Chang

Chief Executive Officer

Dear Council Chair Martin and honorable members of the City Council,

We respectfully ask the Council's support for our request for funding to provide the After School Leadership Program, featuring STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math); targeting girls in grades K-3, in DOE Title I schools located in Districts 1, 2 and 3. Girls in this program will be able to take full advantage of the proven effective, nationally developed, age-appropriate leadership activities, regardless of their families' ability to pay.

The Girl Scouts of Hawai'i's mission is to build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the work a better place. The Girl Scouts' leadership experience program model is the only statewide girl-focused out-of-school development program which develops strong leadership skills and traits, and then empowers girls to utilize these qualities to positively impact their lives and the lives of those around them.

The traditional troop includes five or more girls and two or more adult volunteers called troop leaders. Troops are organized into service units determined by geographic area. Currently, 2385 girls are organized into 286 troops, and are supported by a total of 2093 adult volunteers

In addition to serving "traditional" Girl Scout troops, GSH has embarked on delivering the same leadership curriculum to girls attending Title I schools by removing financial and geographical barriers to participation. Called the After School Leadership Program (ASLP), these girls have access to the same curriculum that "traditional" troops have, in their own communities (schools) at a low or no-cost opportunity.

We ask for your favorable consideration of our request. Thank you for your support of Girl Scouts of Hawai'i.

Sincerely,

Shari Chang
Chief Executive Officer

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place.

MISC. COM. 2065

Council